

'Israel will not accept change in pact'

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Saturday Israel would not agree to any changes in its May accord with Lebanon which would jeopardise Israeli "security," Israel Radio reported. Mr. Arens made the statement to a rightist Lebanese radio station as Lebanese President Amin Gemayel prepared for national reconciliation talks in Geneva next week, Israel Radio said. Mr. Arens said the U.S.-mediated accord provided security arrangements beneficial to both Lebanon and Israel. The accord was never ratified by Lebanon and Israel fears Mr. Gemayel could come under pressure at the talks to go back on the agreement. Mr. Arens accused Damascus of "having no bounds" in its attempts to prevent Lebanon from exercising sovereignty over its own affairs.

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Jordan Times

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جريدة عربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Jordanian Press Foundation

King receives pledges of allegiance

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received cables of allegiance and support from members of the public representing all walks of life in Jordan denouncing the recent attacks on the Jordanian ambassadors to India and Italy as criminal acts. "These criminal acts can only serve the enemies of the Arab Nation and just Arab causes," the cables said. They also called for combating acts of terrorism and apprehending the assailants. The cables renewed the Jordanian people's total support for King Hussein's leadership and their readiness to offer any sacrifice for the sake of safeguarding the national dignity and higher Arab interests.

Blast kills two in South Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Two people were killed in southern Lebanon in a bomb blast Saturday when they were laying an ambush for Israeli troops, security sources said. Israeli forces immediately surrounded the scene of the blast at a crossroads north of the port of Tyre, and detained eight people for questioning, the sources said.

Laker to wind up travel firm

LONDON (R) — Cheap air travel pioneer Sir Freddie Laker, whose airline collapsed last year, is winding up his travel company after less than a year in business, company sources said Saturday. He set up Skytrain holidays after Laker Airways crashed with debts of more than \$100 million but the new venture, backed by the trading group Louria, was hamstrung by opposition from other travel firms. The sources said Skytrain operations would cease on Monday, when the last of its summer holiday customers return home, and the company would then be up for sale.

Politician banned from Baluchistan

KARACHI (R) — Pakistani military authorities expelled a leading politician, Mian Tufail Mohammad, from the southwestern province of Baluchistan Saturday, a spokesman for his banned Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) party said here. The spokesman said Mr. Tufail, leader of the right-wing party, was given the expulsion order at the provincial capital Quetta and asked by the authorities to leave the province immediately. Mr. Tufail arrived in Quetta only two days ago, and on Friday he demanded an end to a four-year ban on political parties. Related stories on page 8

Simowitz elected party chairman

VIENNA (R) — Austrian Chancellor Fred Simowitz was elected chairman of his Socialist Party Saturday at the close of the party's three-day congress, succeeding Bruno Kreisky, who stepped down after heading the party for 17 years. Mr. Kreisky, 72, stepped down as chancellor after 13 years in office, after the Socialists lost their absolute majority in last April's general elections. He was elected honorary party chairman for life by unanimous vote of the congress.

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Jordanian Press Foundation

Jordan backs Euro-Arab dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian parliamentarians taking part in a two-day symposium on parliamentary cooperation in Baghdad have reiterated Jordan's full support for bolstering Euro-Arab dialogue and expressed the country's hopes for further expanding scope of cooperation between the Arab Nation and Europe in various fields. This came in talks held with delegates to the symposium which opened Saturday. In their meetings the parliamentarians explained the principles on which the Jordanian policies are founded with regard to Arab and international issues. Jordan believes in Arab solidarity and seeks to achieve it with all its power and also strives to help the Palestinian people regain their rights under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, they said. Jordan has devoted all its resources for serving the Palestine cause and is undertaking all endeavours on the Arab, regional and international scenes to help the Palestinians regain their rights, they said.

Gemayel arrives for Geneva talks

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel arrived in Geneva Saturday to act as host for next week's national reconciliation talks, widely seen as Lebanon's last chance to avoid a new round of civil war.

Officials at the presidential palace said the talks had been postponed from Monday to Tuesday to allow more time for consultations among the politicians and factional leaders invited to the Geneva meeting.

But state-run Beirut Radio insisted that the meeting, which was to be held in Berne where he was to meet Swiss President Pierre Aubert.

The talks have taken on added urgency following Sunday's twin bomb attacks against U.S. and French troops in Beirut in which 23 U.S. servicemen and 56 French paratroopers died.

Justice Minister Roger Shikhami said meanwhile that Lebanon's military authorities are holding a number of people in connection with the bombings, but he declined to say how many or reveal what they had told the military prosecutor.

Two U.S. Marines were slightly wounded Saturday in a 10-minute firefight with gunmen east of Beirut airport, a Marine spokesman said.

On arrival in Geneva, Mr.

firefight with gunmen east of Beirut airport, a Marine spokesman said.

They were the first Marine casualties since suicide commandos struck at the American and French bases in Beirut Sunday. The Marines, stationed at the Lebanese University Science Faculty east of the airport, were injured by a rocket-propelled grenade. They responded with small arms fire, the spokesman said.

The Lebanese army clashed again, with militiamen south of Beirut amid continuing violations of the Sept. 25 ceasefire accord which called for the reconciliation talks.

State-run Beirut Radio said the army exchanged shellfire with militiamen in the Khaled area, south of Beirut airport. Druze fighters are entrenched in nearby hills.

Turkish embassy attacked Guards beat off two gunmen who attacked the Turkish embassy (Continued on page 3)

Mousavi vows to attack Marines; Any U.S. retaliation will be pre-emptive; Mitterrand warns Beirut attackers; First Marine bodies flown home, page 2



An exhausted Marine takes a break Saturday during rescue work at the site of last Sunday's blast at a Marine post in Beirut (A.P. wirephoto)

Rumsfeld tipped as new U.S. envoy

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan is considering naming former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld as his new Middle East envoy, administration officials said Saturday.

The post has been vacant since Robert McFarlane was appointed White House national security affairs adviser earlier this month.

Mr. Reagan said last Thursday he wanted to name a new Middle East envoy quickly to seek progress in national reconciliation talks due to begin in Geneva on Monday between Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's government and its opponents.

Mr. Rumsfeld, currently president of G.D. Seale & Company, a Chicago pharmaceutical manufacturer, served as defense secretary from 1975 to 1977 during President Ford's administration.

Earlier, he was a Republican member of the House of Representatives and also served as ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and as White House chief of staff, among other posts.

Camp leader missing

There was still no trace Saturday of General Hudson Austin,

(Continued on page 3)

Reagan may have known of Cuban presence prior to invasion, page 8

500,000 join Dutch peace march

THE HAGUE (R) — Some 500,000 demonstrators marched peacefully through the Hague Saturday to protest against NATO's planned deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles in the Netherlands.

The protesters, carrying anti-nuclear banners and black flags, marched in two columns over a 12-kilometre route. Police, some wearing anti-nuclear badges, mostly stayed in the background.

Police and the organizers, the "Crusie Missiles, No" committee, said the number of protesters could only be estimated much

later because thousands of demonstrators had been held up in traffic jams outside the city.

The centre-right coalition government is due to make a final decision by next June on whether to accept 48 cruise missiles under a 1979 NATO plan to deploy new U.S. missiles in Western Europe if U.S.-Soviet arms control talks in Geneva fail.

The rally was organised with the backing of six of the 12 parliamentary parties, eight anti-nuclear movements, trade unions and the Dutch armed forces confederations association.

Several Dutch servicemen defied Defence Ministry orders banning them from wearing uniforms at Saturday's rally.

About 30 members of a right-wing group tried to disrupt part of the demonstration but were dispersed by police.

As the march progressed in bright sunshine, six light aircraft circled above in a counter-demonstration staged by the Dutch war veterans.

The planes towed banners saying "rather a missile in the garden than a Russian in the kitchen" and "NATO assures your freedom."

NATO says more missiles will be scrapped if accord reached in Geneva

MONTEBELLO, Quebec (R) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence ministers have agreed to scrap short-range nuclear weapons and pledged to dismantle new intermediate-range missiles they plan to deploy if an agreement is reached with the Soviet Union.

They called on the Soviet Union Friday to bring new proposals to the negotiating table in Geneva on intermediate missiles.

They said Moscow had no justification for making good its threat to break off the talks if U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles are installed in Western Europe.

In contrast to NATO's policy of restraint, the Soviet build-up is continuing relentlessly at all levels," they said in a statement Thursday after two days of talks.

Seeking to defuse the anti-nuclear movement in Western Europe and seize a unilateral peace initiative, they agreed over the next five or six years to reduce the alliance's stockpile of largely outdated short-range nuclear weapons by almost 25 per cent to its lowest level in more than 20 years.

Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has threatened to call off the Geneva talks if missile deployment goes ahead as scheduled at the end of this year in Britain, West Germany and among other posts.

But they were not optimistic about the chances of a breakthrough by the end of the year. NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns said if Moscow demonstrated the political will, an agreement could have been reached in six weeks."

But the ministers who agreed to meet in Turkey next spring, said they were "willing to reverse, halt or modify deployments — including the removal and dismantling of missiles already deployed — if and when a balanced, equitable and verifiable agreement is achieved in Geneva."

Mauroy backs missiles, raps U.S. over Grenada

BOURG-EN-BRESSE (R) — Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy Saturday renewed France's backing for the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe but rebuked Washington for its invasion of Grenada.

The right of peoples to control their own destiny must be respected by all. It must be respected everywhere. And first of all by those who are strongest," he said.

Mr. Mauroy defended France's involvement in Lebanon, which led to the deaths of 56 French soldiers in last Sunday's bomb attack in Beirut.

Replying to charges by the right-wing opposition that French policy in Lebanon and Chad had been weak, he asked if they wanted France to march on Damascus or declare war on Libya.

One dead, 100 injured in South African violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — One student died and about 100 were injured in violent clashes Saturday with members of a Zulu political organisation at a black university, a local hospital official said.

The student died after being admitted with head injuries following the violence at the Zululand University in Natal Province, the official at the hospital in nearby Empangeni said.

Five others were seriously hurt and needed operations. The rest of the injured bore signs of blows from sticks, knives and spears, he added.

The fighting flared as several thousand members of the Zulu

Iraq determined to force Tehran to accept peace

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said Saturday Iraq was determined to force Iran to accept peace and cut "all arteries which feed its aggression against Iraq."

It said Iraq would follow up last week's mining of the entrance to Iran's Gulf port of Bandar Khomeini with other deterrent measures to force Iran to accept peace.

Iraq Vice-President Taha Muhiddin Marouf made the appeal in a speech at the start of a two-day symposium on parliamentary cooperation between Western Europe and the Arab World.

The European Parliament is able to support peaceful moves, to exert pressure to this effect on the Iranian regime and to halt all dealings with this regime as long as it ignores the dignified plea for peace made by Iraq and all international and regional circles," Mr. Marouf said.

They said Iraq could use its Soviet-made long-range surface-to-surface missiles to destroy the terminal, as well as five French Super Etendard planes equipped with Exocet missiles which are expected to arrive in Iraq by the end of this month.

Iraq has said it would close the Gulf to oil exports if its oil shi-

pments were disrupted.

Military sources here said Friday Baghdad had used Soviet and French missiles against Iranian troop concentrations in Iran's latest offensive on the northern Gulf front.

They said these included Soviet-made short-range frog missiles, Soviet scud missiles with a range of up to 270 kilometres and French Exocet missiles fired from helicopters.

Al Thawra said the Iranian interior was an open target to Iraq's destructive strikes and "nothing in Iraq was safe."

Iraq has officially confirmed it launched missile strikes against selected targets in Iran which it said were in retaliation for Iranian attacks on Iraqi border towns. Iran has said hundreds of civilians have been killed in the attacks.

Iraq expects world action if Iran blocks Gulf, page 2.

Sikh rebels strike during Gandhi visit

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists shot dead two people in India's troubled Punjab state Saturday during a visit there by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

PTI said the gunmen struck in Amritsar, site of the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple, while Mrs. Gandhi was visiting the state capital Chandigarh about 200 kilometers away.

"We are fully aware that the parliamentarians of Europe shoulder a special responsibility towards the cause of ultimate and just peace between Iran and Iraq," Reiterating his country's support for the Palestinian revolution and its legitimate leadership, Mr. Marouf said he hoped the European Community would take a "more just and equitable stand vis-a-vis the rights of the Palestinian people."

He said Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon was aimed partly to "direct" and "ultimate support of the United States."

Mr. Marouf said the Lebanon-Israel troop withdrawal agreement, signed in May, contradicted U.N. Security Council resolutions 507 and 508.

The two dead were a shop employee and an off-duty policeman. The wounded were shop employees.

The shooting was the worst incident of violence since 19 people died when a train in Punjab was derailed by sabotage eight days ago as part of a violent campaign for greater autonomy.

Mrs. Gandhi's visit to Punjab was her first there since she imposed direct rule on the state three weeks ago to counter growing violence in which nearly 50 people have died this month.

PTI said there were extraordinary security precautions during Mrs. Gandhi's visit to Chandigarh.

The two dead were a shop employee and an off-duty policeman. The wounded were shop employees.

The negotiations are only means of making good the differences or the conflicts of interests and putting an end to the race which keeps contemporary humanity in such a state of apprehension," he said.

"The church must commit herself to use every means at her disposal to ward off the dangers which menace world security," he added in his 11-page speech in Latin.

Synod sources said the Pope's address had pleased many bishops as it dealt with the synod's subject of "Reconciliation and Penance in the Mission of the Church" more broadly than anticipated.

Mrs. Gandhi's government has said negotiations on the issues cannot start until violence ends in the prosperous wheat-growing state bordering Pakistan.

"People were worried he was going to refer only to the sacrament of penance in his final address," the source said.

The fighting flared as several thousand members of the Zulu

Bahraini leader says international action likely if Iran blocked Gulf

KUWAIT (R) — The emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, was quoted Saturday as saying an Iranian blockade of the Gulf could prompt international intervention, with far-reaching consequences for the area.

An Iranian blockade would be harmful to all the Gulf littoral states, which depend on free navigation of the waterway for their imports and exports, he said in an interview with the newspaper Al-Rai Al-Aam.

Iran has threatened to close the Hormuz Strait at the mouth of the Gulf if its Gulf war foe Iraq disrupts Iranian oil exports. The threat has provoked U.S. warnings that it would intervene to ensure the flow of oil from the Gulf.

Closure of the Gulf "could lead to international intervention with far-reaching consequences for the interests of these (Gulf) states".

The emir said: "Economic and military integration are both imperatives for the overall unity sou-

to help resolve conflicts that could affect the lifeline of our peoples."

Sheikh Khalifa said responsibility for peace and security in the Gulf rested with the people of the area. Gulf states rejected any form of foreign interference in their own affairs, he added.

He denied the existence of two schools of thought within the Gulf council.

The editors had spoken of reports that certain member states gave priority to military cooperation while others concentrated on the economic front.

The emir said: "Economic and military integration are both imperatives for the overall unity sou-

ghi by the council members." In Doha, the emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani, renewed his call for a speedy end to the Gulf war and urged Iran to follow Iraq in responding to mediation efforts.

Iraq has rejected mediation and good offices by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to solve its dispute with Iraq.

It demands billions of dollars in war reparations and the ousting of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq as preconditions for an end to the war.

In an interview with editors of local newspapers, published Saturday, nine days before a summit conference of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in Doha, Sheikh Khalifa said: "The ramifications of the conflict... endanger not only the combatants themselves but also the region as a whole."

Sheikh Khalifa made no mention of Iran's threat to close the Strait of Hormuz if its oil shipments were disrupted by Iraq.

Damascus visit postponed

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah said Saturday his planned visit to Syria Sunday had been postponed.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters the visit jointly with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal had been postponed "because Syrian officials were busy with other issues."

The trip was part of attempts by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to narrow differences between Syria and Iraq ahead of a planned Arab summit in Riyadh next month.

Sheikh Sabah said he hoped he would make the visit after a meeting of GCC foreign ministers which in Doha on Nov. 1.

Oman shares Kuwaiti views on Gulf blockade

MUSCAT (R) — Any stoppage of normal shipping through the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf could result in intervention by foreign forces and broaden the scope of the 37-month-old war between Iraq and Iran, a senior Omani government minister said Saturday.

Information Minister Abdul-Aziz Rowass also told Reuters in an interview that continuation of the Gulf war was having a major effect on the region and said the conflict might become "beyond the control of the concerned parties."

Oman faces Iran across the 38-kilometre wide strait which leaders in Tehran have threatened to seal if Iraq disrupts Iranian oil shipments. The two deep-water channels through the waterway lie in Omani waters.

Mr. Rowass said there had been no interruption of traffic so far in the strait, a vital artery for a sixth of the non-communist world's oil supplies and commodity imports on which Gulf states depend.

But he said: "Any stoppage of normal traffic in the strait could invite forces from outside the region to involve themselves in regional matters which could become beyond the expectation of all concerned."

Military sources in Muscat said this month that Oman could be expected to seek help from the United States, France and Britain, as well as other GCC members if Iran tried to disrupt shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

President Reagan said last week the West would not tolerate any blockade of the strait and refused to rule out the use of military force if Iran carried out its threat.

"As long as it drags on, the possibility of its continuity could result in it being beyond the control of the concerned parties," he said.

In Baghdad Friday, Iraq's ruling Baath Party newspaper said the Gulf war now stretched "from the remote north to the southernmost point in the Gulf."

Mr. Rowass said a just and peaceful end to the war was aim of Oman and its fellow members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait.

Oman supported the council's efforts to end the war as well as other initiatives by the organisation of the Islamic Conference the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations, he said.

Mr. Rowass said Oman looked on its agreement to provide U.S. forces with emergency facilities as a deterrent to prevent outside action against the country.

"It is not meant to be a threat to any neighbouring country or any other country," he said.

"You do not wait for your friends until you are in trouble and then ask them to come," he said.

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Oman, S. Yemen open talks on border issues

KUWAIT (R) — Oman and South Yemen opened formal talks here Saturday on border issues and bilateral cooperation, the official Kuwait news agency said.

It said Omani Deputy Minister of State Mohammad Oteibi and South Yemeni Deputy Minister of Interior Abdel Wase' Al-Iryani arrived in Riyadh Saturday for talks on economic cooperation with Saudi leaders, the official Saudi press agency said.

It quoted Mr. Iryani as saying the talks would also cover Arab problems ahead of a planned Arab summit in Saudi Arabia next month.

The two neighbours, at odds for

many years over ideological and border issues, said on Thursday they had decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

N. Yemeni-Saudi talks

BAHRAIN (R) — North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani arrived in Riyadh Saturday for talks on economic cooperation with Saudi leaders, the official Saudi press agency said.

It quoted Mr. Iryani as saying the talks would also cover Arab problems ahead of a planned Arab summit in Saudi Arabia next month.

Gen. Evren says elections will restore democracy

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren said Saturday next week's general elections, criticised at home and abroad as not being free, would bring back democracy and disappoint those who tried to impose their own ideology on the country.

He was speaking at a big military parade here to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Turkish republic by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

"Despite pitiless and ill-intended accusations, we will establish democracy and a parliamentary system through the general elections on Nov. 6," Gen. Evren said.

Opposition groups at home and abroad have said the elections will not restore democracy as only three parties have been allowed to contest the poll.

The president appeared at the parade in top-hat and tails, as Ataturk was often pictured, in contrast to uniformed generals and normally-clad ministers sharing the platform.

Shops and offices were closed for the day and city buildings were draped with huge scarlet Turkish flags and portraits of Ataturk, still a revered figure.

Ataturk, who died in 1938, inspired and led the nationalist movement which after World War I fought to expel Greek and other foreign forces.

Gen. Evren said such opposition groups tried to turn Turkey towards their own ideologies through outside and inside interference, but they would be disappointed. He urged people to go to the polls and vote responsibly.

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"A Double Tour" at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

America Centre 44371

American Centre Library 41520

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Y.W.C.A. 41793

Y.W.M.A. 6624251

Amman Municipal Library 36111

University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also artifacts from Mada'in Saleh (4th to 14th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al-Qal'a (Citadel Hill).

Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiyah, 75261.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiyah, 75261.

Prayer Times

04:29 Fajr

05:51 (Sunrise) Shurq

11:28 Dhuhr

14:26 'Asr

16:49 Maghrib

18:10 'Isha'

04:00 Morning News

04:30 News Bulletin

04:45 Morning Show

04:55 News Summary

05:00 Pop Session

05:30 News Summary

05:45 French Programme

05:55 News in Arabic

06:00 Comedy: Yes

06:15 Weekly Series: The Citadel

06:20 News in English

06:25 Best Seller

06:30 News Headlines

06:35 Morning News

06:45 News Bulletin

06:55 News Summary

07:00 News Headlines

07:05 News Bulletin

07:15 News Summary

07:20 News Headlines

07:25 News Bulletin

07:30 News Summary

07:35 News Headlines

07:40 News Bulletin

07:50 News Summary

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Selwa El Taher
Special to the Jordan Times

"I love the whole of the Middle East though my love for Jordan" said Aicha once, biting heartily into her first *Shawarma* sandwich. "For it is here that I have fully realized my Arabhood".

And it is while living here, as wife of the Algerian ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Ahmad Laidi, that Aicha wrote her third work. The *Ordeal of the Voices: Arab Women Speak*.

This is almost to say that for four years, Aicha literally lead a double life. Running from one place to another, she has been known to attend four different functions in one day. And she entertained, receiving with equal grace, friends, acquaintances and dignitaries in the warmth of her residence's sparkling hospitality.

Aicha adopted Jordan and Jordan adopted her. But, as befits her personality, she melted in her surroundings while retaining her uniqueness. A uniqueness springing from a multiple equation: Trained in the French intellectual tradition, she can be coldly rational and bitingly critical; born Algerian, she is proud, generous and committed; as a Muslim she cultivates a faith based on love and comprehension; and the Arab in her grows as Arabism should be: All-embracing.

But if Jordanian society knows Aicha Laidi, how many have discovered Aicha Lemaine, writer of growing international reputation? For Aicha already has two major works to her name: Award-winning *The Chrysalis* (des Femmes, 1976) which is a novel about Algeria and Algerian women as they come out of the cocoon of colonialism and traditionalism and open up to the world, and "heaven of Porphyry" (Simeon, 1978), which is a poignant literary work set within the framework of the Algerian resistance and fight for independence.

The Chrysalis, translated into several European languages, and *Heaven of Porphyry* have not seen the world in Arabic yet. Deliberately stripped by the French of her own language, Aicha Lemaine still stands today in isolation from the masses whose reality she so furiously translates. Arab editors are guilty by omission of depriving her of her legitimate audience and of depriving her audience of her.

Today, a North African writes about the Middle East in French. Anathema? Or the logical outcome of a long past of deprivations

and search? Aicha hangs for life to the Near East as her spiritual cradle. "As an Arab woman, I am a wounded person who shall never stop asking myself questions," she will tell you. "In this book, I have set out on the trail of the prophets in order to find out what remained after their passage."

Turmoil... and a Near East stumbling between its colossal efforts at rebirth and take off, and the gravitational pull of the conflicts, the divisions and the forces of backwardness constantly dragging its feet to the ground and below. Aicha inevitably lands in the midst of havoc. But a havoc that is only too familiar. For she is no foreigner coming with her lorgnette to study the ways of the "indigenous". Rather an indigenous beating the same scars, trying today to rise above despair.

Her book was originally to be "by and for the Arab women of the Near East". But people's pre-occupations in a zone of combat of all sorts forced her to enlarge the scope of her work. "The Near East is today synonymous with troubles and wars, with fantasies of the deserts, with camels and bedouins, when it isn't with luxury, sexuality and harems. It is folklore and savagery "in the imagery of a certain Western literature. "Until when the hostility?" the author asks. "These misconceptions, insistently propagated, are they feeding racism or cunningly diverted anti-Semitism? Wherever we turn, reality is misrepresented and imposture lurks. I have tried in this book to fill a lacuna in the knowledge of the other, and to present the Arabs as they live today."

Her search is built upon investigation. "Women and men describe their society. Besides, they too, see and judge the West, discuss it, analyse it. They finally speak without being spoken of". On her side, she is demystifying the Near East and the intestine quarrels by submitting them to the referendum of: Arabism, Islam, the others and the actions of Arab political leaders".

"All this sends us back," she writes, "to the overall problem of the integration of women. In this optic, how to avoid that their participation becomes a source of permanent conflict with a group of people with a backward mentality, dangerous for the renaissance (or the survival) of this part of the world, several times traumatized by all its exogenous conflicts? How to close ranks in the will to find a peaceful and operative solution? How to escape the con-

Aicha's modern Odyssey

The Ordeal of the Voices: Arab Women Speak

fusion of ideas and to circumvent the obstacle standing in the way of Arab societies in order to restore communication between their people? By listening to them; for we can understand better and help only by letting the human element in any country talk". Here, she adds, "I have asked no questions, or little, in order to collect a spontaneous reflexion, through which perspire immediate concerns".

Typically enough, Aicha wants her book to be a home for meeting as well as confrontation. She writes: "History on this land has been placed under the aegis of adversity for half a century now. Violence and pain in the Near East separate its peoples from themselves and from their possibilities of work, thought, lucidity and progress. They live in terms of this pain, between what they are and what they think to be. Torn asunder in their deepest tendencies for the love of life, tolerance and peace, their behaviour is constantly goaded by the numerous conflicts acting upon them".

Will she be able to tame the anxiety? She wonders, as she embarks on her impassioned quest. With Jordan as her home away from home, she visits 11 other countries of the area where she acts as ruthless investigator of the mighty, humble listener to the weak and mouthpiece to a whole world buried under layers of silence. Hers is an odyssey in time as well as in space.

How can an Arab reconcile the glorious past with the bleak present? The author deplores the flagrant dissociation: "Flash-back to the time of thirst and a childhood nurtured on the epics of the 'white burnouses'. Yes, but if the cavalcade of my ancestors rocked my childhood dreams, reality sent me back the image of my veiled mother... How did my fearless 'white burnouse' people, so fond of freedom, ever limit those of whom, the Koran says: 'Paradise lies under the feet of mothers? How could we be equal in religion and dissimilar in freedom? How can we accept stagnation and backwardness when we know that progress and science are major precepts of Islam? Who then is lying? And why?

Can a people recapture glimmers of their past? Can we throw

reinforcing bridges across time? In Yemen, the attempt is at its most, traumatising. She writes from there: "Here I am elsewhere, in the home of women-queens at the time of the jungle-Algerians and Europe of the caves. Here, women who used to be warriors, councillors, poets, advisers, Muses, mistresses without shame. I look for them in the souks, in the offices, in the citadel homes, in the villages clinging to the mountain-tops and in the eyes of the little girls who smile at me in the dusty streets of Sana'a (Yemen)".

"This long fabulous past buzzes in my ears as I walk down the streets of Sana'a. No, I do not stroll along as a tourist. Rather, as a phantom torn by so many tormented wanderings. Seeking a certain glorious past, or, rather, seeking the future. Where will it come from? Can sleep possibly last for so long? And, as always, the same dreadful knot in my throat, its claws insidiously reaching for the innermost of my memory. Thus, every time I land in an Arab country: Gush of anger, of hopeless love and of fear. Will I put my finger on the absence? Will I discover the truth? Where are the women? Where are the men? Where hides the speech of the Arab people? Why the decadence?"

Eastward-bound, the author undertakes the cultural pilgrimage of a North African in search of her deepest roots—Saudi Arabia. But this is also a disturbing emotional and psychological experience: That of a woman working through her love-hate relationship with the Mother. She writes: "As Arabia gradually seeped into me, I overcame certain negative impressions. The country played with my nerves as if to test my sincerity. My old revolts surfaced once more. My eternal thirst for justice, for harmony, a thread constantly rewoven in a past-present that flutters and flickers in the spectrum of the dictates. I listen to the futuristic whisper of Arabia. Cradle of my spiritual ethics. History of my great question, of my certitude. Here I come across a desert agonizing under the irresistible thrust of buildings, fortress-villas and bulldozers wringing moans of pain from the recalcitrant land. Jeddah... panting, perspiring at the onset of labour, what child is to be born of your contractions?"

Arabia under a new light. Arabia for the first time writing itself. Women studying, working, confident in a better future. Indifferent to calumnies. Matters of veil, segregation, co-wives brought down to local perspective instead of being blown up into the sensational. Saudi women calmly

tortments of flames burning every hope! Let him rest! Let a ray of sun finally dry the wounds of his memory". For, in her own words, "they have killed him yesterday, they continue to kill him today".

And, from the sites of historical massacres to a country where the mutilation of millions still takes place under cold, indifferent or patronising eyes: The Sudan, which still diminishes its women in the flesh through the practice of excision or clitoridectomy.

The author describes her shock: "Dragging my rejection of all forms of oppression of women in the practices of repudiation, polygamy and the inferiority of this sex in everything, I hit smack into unbearable suffering and blood. Suddenly, other ailings seem minimal: like a complaint of mental cruelty compared to an assassination".

Here again, Sudanese women and men speak, explain, analyse... without being analysed. International conferences have often done them more harm than good, by misfiring on the adopted approach. Only an intensified campaign at the very base incorporated in an improved system of education can help abolish this secular practice of daily aggression.

But Aicha's most important pilgrimage to pain, she cannot undertake. She has to project it into the future, out of every Arab's deepest wound and into his ultimate habitat: Palestine.

Here the author departs from literary tradition and admits to losing words and facing the blank page. Holding her book in her hand, she comments: "when one writes, one is conscious of his readers, somehow. Writing involves seduction: You have to entice the reader and a certain flirtation takes place, so that you do not lose him. But, when I wrote the chapter on Palestine (Here, Aicha, departing from her usual behaviour, allows her tears to fall unchecked), I was stripped, unadorned... in a fourth state of consciousness".

Reading the chapter, one senses the writer in a trance, as she writes how the pages of her book fly away from her in a demoniac dance, to fall back on earth in the form of white tents. The 12 countries she has visited are suddenly a desert of ard and intensity. The

West is a large expanse of black tents. And, suddenly, time freezes in an eternity without life.

Extermination? Annihilation? With her whole being, the author refuses. In a momentous effort to survive, she breaks her chains and takes wing. Survival requires resuscitation. Therefore she shall resuscitate. Old and fresh martyrs are called forth to testify in front of the tribunal of the future. Helwa Zeidan, Hayat Al Belbeissi, Mountah Al Hurani, Limi Al Nabulsi, Dalal Al Mughrabi, Said Mansur and so many others come forward to relate the horror.

The nightmare subsides as living voices come to relay their martyrs. The land might shrink physically from day to day, but it grows and expands by the hour in the minds and hearts of its legitimate children. Men, women and children are taking up the struggle in their manifold diaspora, bringing life out of the naught, determined to write the next chapters themselves.

"I am the daughter of Najib and Fatima", the author writes. "I was born in Fakhani in Beirut on July 17, 1981 at 11 o'clock. My nationality? Palestinian-Lebanese. My residence: The Red Crescent...

... I was in my mother's womb when the first Zionist plane made in America arrived, carrying death and destruction. My mother was killed on the spot by shelling from the bomb which fell on our house. Killed while giving life. Thus, my birth certificate was issued by the Zionist pilot who accomplished the mission.

"I was born between two raids. My mother was dead in the first and I was born in the second, so I was called: Palestine. I am here in the dawn of the day, stretching my hand to build with you new towers of love. For how long is the distance between life and death, by the expanse of its wounds and so much spilled blood and by the violence of its blows."

"But, also, how short is the distance, like a wink, by the speed with which we bounce back and by the life that throbs in our chests open to the wind and to joy. For the palpitation of existence, is like a wave incessantly caressing a rock, infiltrating it with passion, softly, ultimately wearing down the hardest of rocks."

Aicha's pilgrimage remains less to places than to people. In every country, she has met with a sample of at least one hundred persons cutting across social strata: Taxi drivers, peasants, writers, actors, religious and political leaders say their reality and formulate their

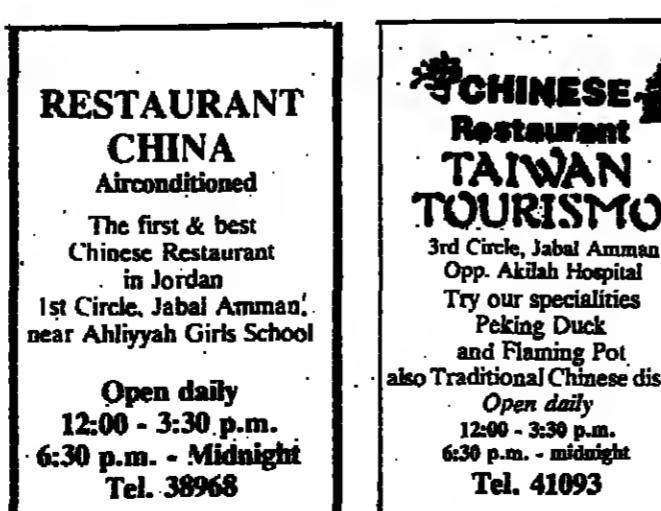
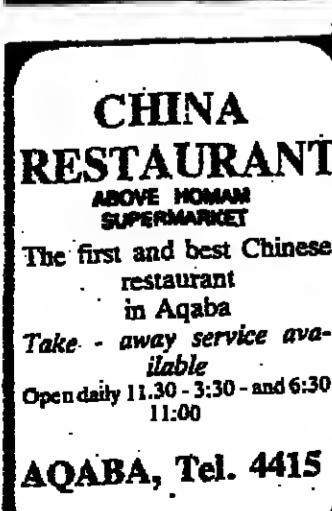
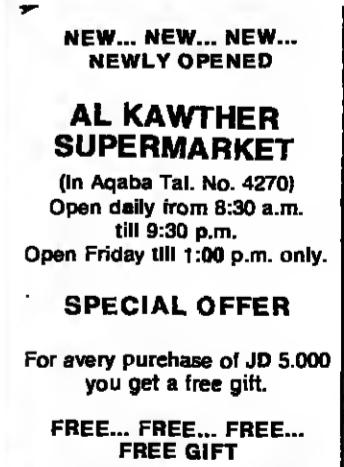
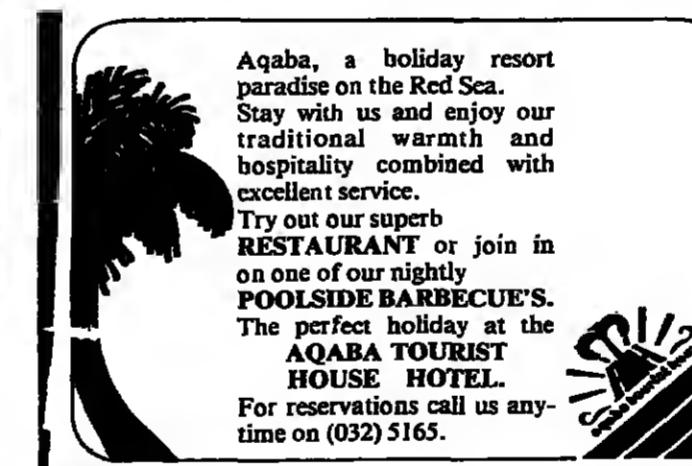
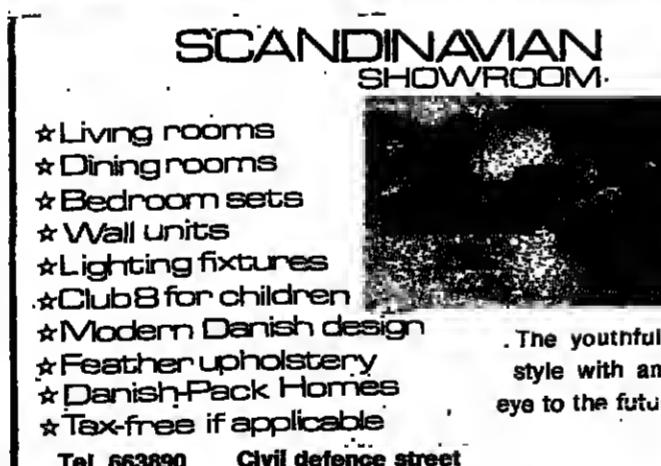
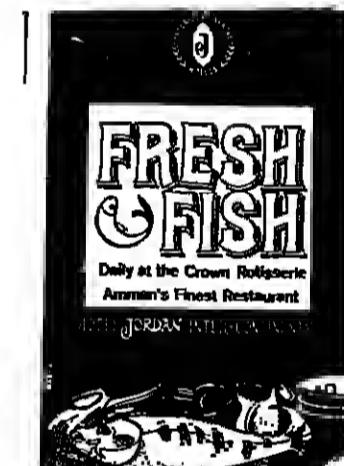
dreams.

The voices, trying on trial, modulate along the book. Every country is unique, tackled by a different approach: Its overall tone is the orchestration of the voices clamouring within. So, if Saudi Arabia is the voice of patience reasoning with frustrations, Yemen is the voice of wistfulness and nostalgia. Kuwait rings of awareness, lucidity and the courage of feminine expression. Bahrain echoes solidarity, confidence and strength. Sounds from the United Arab Emirates are timid, unformulated, misunderstood. You enter Syria and you hear "a kick up between two laughs... and a sob" as semi-paternal patience is shaken by intermittent revolts. In Iraq, the language is nervous, militant, determined, chauvinistic and poetic. The voices of Lebanon are violently and bitterly divided, yet acutely conscious as they swing from the most translucent hope to the darkest desperation. In Jordan, the inflexions are young, positive, searching and tolerant. The Sudan sends waves of nonchalance, tenderness and romanticism in a resigned secret suffering. Egypt holds a dialogue that is altogether proud and pacifist, endearing and arrogant, but on which depends future Arab speech in terms of unity more than division. And Palestine holds a language that has gone beyond words.

After all that has been said, what remains to be concluded? If the listening ear is a trained one, it will detect simplistic rationalisations and defeatist predictions, and recognise in the off-beat and in the out-of-tune, the sounds of vitality. Aicha writes:

"Today... traditionalists and feminists quarrel over the feminine condition, in the midst of so many problems assailing the Sudan and other societies in full mutation and crisis. Wars, political divergence of the Arabs, problems of work and employment, education and the scaldingly unfair distribution of wealth. But these disorders are themselves a sign of life, of a possible renaissance. A new consciousness is being born, a consciousness holding a language, in which resides immense strength."

And it is stronger that the reader emerges from this journey, having sailed on the wings of realism and devotion. The *Ordeal of the Voices* is the ordeal of Arab women and men; but one that holds up hope to them as an offering, and reveals possibilities as so many promises of the future.



SPORTS

English goalkeepers suffer as strikers go on the rampage



Ian Rush — scores 5 goals in Liverpool's 6-0 home win over Luton

LONDON (R) — Strikers Tony Woodcock and Ian Rush became involved in a private two-man duel 100 miles apart as England's first division soccer clubs went on a goal rampage on Saturday.

Like wild west gunslingers, the two marksmen matched each other bullet-for-bullet throughout the afternoon and ended the day by sharing 10 goals between them.

Woodcock scored five goals in

Arsenal's 6-2 victory at Aston Villa while Rush equalled that haul in Liverpool's 6-0 home win

team-mates must have watched their colleagues with envy.

Charlie Nicholas, Arsenal's much-criticised signing from Glasgow Celtic in the summer, hit the bar and twice forced Villa goalkeeper Nigel Spink into breathtaking saves but could not add to his two-goal first division tally.

Woodcock, in contrast, matched Nicholas' 11-match total inside 10 minutes.

Numbers three and four arrived in the 35th and 36th minutes — 60 seconds after winger Tony Morley had pulled one back for Villa — and Woodcock completed his one-man demolition of the home defence shortly after the interval.

Allan Evans reduced the deficit in the 65th minute but Brian McDermott restored Arsenal's four-goal advantage near the end.

Rush made an even quicker start against Luton at Anfield. He had his name on the scoreline twice in the opening five minutes and added three more in the 36th, 55th and 88th minutes.

Kenny Dalglish scored Liverpool's sixth but left him one short of becoming the first player in history to score 100 league goals in both England and Scotland.

With the 11 first division games producing 37 goals — against last week's total of 18 — Manchester United's Irish international striker Frank Stapleton threatened Rush and Woodcock for a brief spell.

He put the League leaders ahead in the fifth minute against Wolverhampton and, after England captain Bryan Robson added a second on the half hour, Stapleton gave United a 3-1 halftime lead when he struck his second in the 43rd break.

Wolverhampton defence learned from its mistakes and stu-

bbonly denied Stapleton and United after the break.

With United and Liverpool poised to disappear over the horizon, the race is on for the honour of finishing third.

Queen's Park Rangers, who won 3-2 at Norwich, fill that spot on goal difference at present but Tottenham's recent revival suggests they will go closest to upsetting the two front-runners.

They beat visiting Notts County 1-0 at White Hart Lane with a goal from back-in-favour Scotland striker Steve Archibald — his 11th in nine games since being recalled to the first team.

Archibald and Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw seldom speak to one another — but the boss will be quite happy as long as the striker continues to let his feet do the talking.

Unlike Archibald, the Glasgow Rangers' players do not even have a manager to ignore following the resignation of John Greig Friday,

And the one-time Scottish giants' problems continued when they slumped to a 3-0 defeat at St. Mirren in the Premier League on Saturday.

After just 10 games, Rangers are already eight points behind pace-setting Aberdeen and champions Dundee United, who have a match in hand.

Aberdeen fell behind to an early Bob Gennie goal at Dundee but the European Cup-Winners' Cup holders came roaring back to emerge 3-1 winners through Peter Weir, Gordon Strachan and Dougie Bell.

Dundee United dropped a point in a 2-2 draw at Motherwell, who may find themselves without a manager in the near future if Jock Wallace — the fans' choice — returns to Rangers.

German soccer club to play Faisali, Wihsdat

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times



Mr. Abdullah Abu Nowar hold the two matches with the visiting Germans as a contribution from their part to this charitable act.

During their stay in Jordan, the German team will visit tourist sites like Jerash and the Dead Sea; tours planned by the Amman Lions Club. The club which was established in 1953 has many activities which are currently focused on collecting funds from contributions and donations to be able to provide free surgical operations for the replacement of the eye cornea for needy people.

Banfield's contract as national coach renewed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The British coach of the national soccer team, Tony Banfield has had his contract renewed for a new term. In a statement immediately upon his re-appointment, Mr. Banfield expressed his delight at the decision which he said places an additional responsibility on him to pursue efforts for improving the efficiency and performance of the national team in accordance with prepared plans. "I hope I will prove that the decision has been a wise one," he told a reporter for Al Ra'i newspaper.

Al Ra'i newspaper quoted Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar as saying that the renewal of Banfield's contract was aimed at gaining for the national team more international experience and improving its performance in the coming year.

Commenting on the programmes for holding soccer international matches in Amman and abroad, the minister said that they were designed to give the national team more self confidence. The Jordanian Football Federation (JFF) has fixed January as the month during which a seminar on Jordanian soccer matches and the federation's problems will be held. "It is hoped that the seminar will lead to a formula for improving the level and performance of Jordanian soccer teams," the minister said.

Mikkola holds narrow lead

SAN PEDRO, Ivory Coast (R) — Finland's Hannu Mikkola clung to a slender lead over Bjorn Waldegard of Sweden after the fourth stage of the Ivory Coast Motor rally on Saturday.

The 41-year-old Swede, driving a turbo-powered Toyota Celica, closed in on the World Championship leader in the 1,145-km (660-mile) tropical forest stage which ended Saturday in this cocoa and timber port in western Ivory Coast.

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Belozerchev: Youngest ever to win all-round gymnastics title

BUDAPEST (R) — Dimitri Belozerchev of the Soviet Union became the youngest man ever to win the world all-round title when he triumphed over a high-class field at the World Gymnastics Championships here Friday.

Belozerchev, 17 in December, recorded an astonishing three 11-point scores in the six exercises.

He recorded maximum points on the high bar, vault and floor, exercises and 9.95 in the other disciplines — the parallel bars, pommel horse and rings — to score 59.85 points on Friday and total 119.20 overall.

No-one could come close to the Soviet prodigy's achievements, with the surprise of the evening being the complete failure of China's Tong Fei to mount any sort of challenge.

Tong, the inspiration behind China's victory in the men's team competition, was equal first with Belozerchev after the team competitions but fell away on Friday to finish a dismal 35th out of 36.

Japan's Koji Gushiken was second and China's Lou Yuan was

third. This year he became the youngest European champion, as well as winning gold medals on the rings, vault and high bar.

With Belozerchev in such dynamic form, interest became confined to the battle for minor placings where the stocky Gushiken, 11 years older than Belozerchev, seized his opportunity with six consistent performances ranging from 9.85 points on the parallel bars to 9.95 on the pommel horse.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Ramtha Soccer Club is seriously contemplating with holding participation in further local soccer competitions if the club is not treated on equal footing with other clubs, according to the club's president quoted by Al Ra'i newspaper.

The president Mr. Abdul Halim Samara said that unless the Jordanian Football Federation (JFF) revises the competitions table, his club will boycott the coming JFF championships.

Mr. Samara was also quoted as saying that England's first division leaders Manchester United football team will arrive in Jordan on December to play Ramtha at Amman's Sports City.

Navratilova sweeps into final

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — Martina Navratilova cruised into the final of the Stuttgart Grand Prix Tennis Tournament with a 6-2, 6-1 semifinal eclipse of West German Eva Pfaff on Saturday.

Navratilova, the Wimbledon and U.S. Open Champion, took just 46 minutes to dispatch Pfaff, who commented afterwards: "What can you do?"

The Czechoslovak-born American, who has conceded just 12 games in the tournament, meets 18-year-old Catherine Tanvier of France in Sunday's final.

Tanvier, ranked 41st in the world, defeated Romanian Virginia Ruzici 1-6, 6-1, 6-4 in the other semifinal.

Connors beaten by giant-killer Davis

TOKYO (R) — U.S. Open Champion Jimmy Connors crashed out of the Tokyo Grand Prix Tennis Tournament here on Friday, the third seeded victim of the week for fellow American Scott Davis, a professional for only four months.

Davis swept into the final with an emphatic 6-3, 6-4 win over second seed Connors to set himself up for a clash against top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, who brushed aside another American, Brad Gilbert, 6-2, 6-1.

Davis, 21, has been in irresistible form this week, building up for his triumph over Connors with wins over sixth-seeded Henri Leconte of France and third seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador.

It was a lackluster performance by Connors and friends said he had been suffering from a bad migraine during the match.

Davis, who turned professional in June and has risen rapidly from 193rd to 39th in the world rankings, broke his 31-year-old opponent's serve in the second game of the first set.

The lanky Davis had trouble with his powerful first service, but that was the only department in which Connors had the edge. The younger player volleyed better and outplayed the five-times U.S. Open Champion on the backhand.

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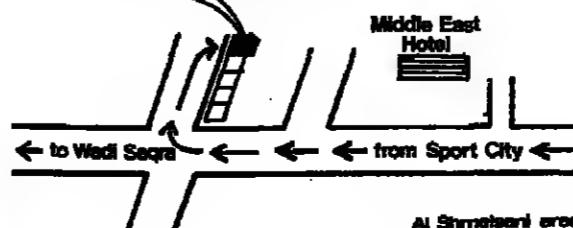
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The tender conditions and scope of work are available at the Tenders Division in the AWSA office. The cost of each copy is JD 50 (nonrefundable). The latest date to obtain these documents is 10:00 a.m. Sunday November 20th, 1983.

General Manager:

Mohammad S. Khami

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Alitalia

Indian-Jordanian firm sets up silver extraction plant in Zarqa

By a Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A joint Indian-Jordanian venture has set up a plant in Jordan to extract silver from waste material, Reuters quoted a spokesman as saying Saturday.

The plant, designed to produce 100 kilogrammes of silver ingots per day, is part of a \$3 million complex for manufacturing silver jewellery and wares, Mr. Joy Joseph, general manager of the Indian partner, the Royal Corporation of Bombay, said.

The final product would be silver jewellery for which Middle Eastern countries as well as Europe would provide consumers, he said.

Highly-skilled craftsmen would be employed in the manufacture of the jewellery manually and advanced automatic machines would be introduced in the plant, Mr. Joseph, who has many years of experience in the field, said.

The selection of the site for the plant in Jordan was prompted by the government's encouragement to local industries and incentives offered, Mr. Joseph said, adding that the procedures of obtaining the necessary legal documentation were relatively very simple.

He also expressed appreciation for "the most friendly cooperation" shown by the concerned local departments and officials towards the company.

The company would employ 80 skilled people and about 50 per cent of the workforce would be

Indian, Mr. Joseph said. The Bombay-based company has entered into a 10-year contract with its Jordanian counterpart and at the end of this period the Indian company would cease to be involved in the project, Mr. Joseph said.

CANNES, France (R) — The French government will lift strict controls on the amount of money French tourists may take abroad in time for the Christmas holidays, secretary of state for tourism Mr. Roland Carraz said Friday.

Mr. Carraz, speaking at the congress of the national travel agents' union, said that as of Dec. 20 the government would return to the former system allowing tourists to take up to 5,000 francs (\$625) in currency each time they leave the country.

But he said use of credit cards abroad would remain banned except for businessmen, adding that the government had decided to lift the controversial controls to facilitate holiday travel.

The controls, imposed last March as part of a socialist government austerity plan were due to be lifted on Dec. 31.

They limited French tourists to 2,000 francs (\$250) in foreign currency for the year and 1,000 francs (\$125) in French currency each time they left the country.

France's trade balance showed a surplus for the first time in two years last month, trimming the trade deficit to 36 billion francs (\$4.5 billion) for the first nine months of 1983.

Manufactured silver goods would be marketed locally and in Europe, he added.

Disarray in West Germany's steel industry threatens E.C.

FRANKFURT — Disarray in West Germany's once powerful steel sector has suddenly emerged as a major threat to the long and painful programme to restore the European Community (E.C.) steel industries to commercial viability by the end of 1985.

The collapse this month of merger negotiations between Thyssen and Krupp, the two largest German steel producers, marks the latest of many failed initiatives to restructure the German industry in line with reduced market prospects.

The immediate worry is that the Germans' ability to agree among themselves on mergers and capacity cuts will also make it difficult for them — formerly the market leaders — to continue co-operating in the delicate arrangements to restraining production in the community. These are due to be renewed at the end of January.

If the production and sales quotas are not renewed, there could be a chaotic scramble among European producers for market shares which would lead to the undermining of the whole steel revival plan.

Nervousness about this unlikely but fearsome outcome is believed to be one of the factors that has led to an unexpected recent weakening of many steel product prices. E.C. prices generally are now

well below those prevailing in the U.S. and Japan.

"Things are a bit anarchic at the moment," says Mr. Jacques Michel, deputy director general of Usinor, France's largest producer.

"We have a crisis of confidence that we have to overcome one way or another," adds Dr. Dieter Spethmann, chairman of Thyssen, Germany's and Europe's largest steel producer. "Only with confidence will prices rise."

One reason confidence has gone is that the German producers have lost leadership of their own market.

West Germany accounts for about a third of E.C. steel consumption, and prices set in this market have a strong influence on those elsewhere in the community.

Until recently, the German producers dominated their home market and so could impose some discipline on the community as a whole. But the relentless use of competition from government subsidised producers elsewhere in Europe and around the world — producers who are generally less concerned about maintaining employment — has gradually sapped the Germans' strength.

The share of imports in the German market has doubled in the past five years to over 40 per cent, and it is higher in some key

products.

Meanwhile, their loss of market share has left the Germans with huge excess capacity — now about 70 per cent above current production rates of 37 million tonnes per year.

This, together with low prices, has undermined their financial strength, making it difficult for them to restructure even if they could agree on how to do it.

German producers have long resisted sharing in the E.C. programme to cut capacity on the grounds that they were efficient, while most companies in Britain, France and elsewhere survived only thanks to vast government subsidies.

Whatever the merits of such a stand, it was bound to fail as long as Germany was holding open house to every subsidised steelmaker in the world.

"We need further plant closures, further layoffs and further finance for modernisation," Dr. Spethmann says. "But it is impossible now to attract private equity for steelmaking."

All this is a startling turnaround from the mood of confidence that was developing in E.C. steel industry circles early this year.

Since the E.C. steel market collapsed in 1980, the European Commission had made considerable progress, using emergency powers conferred by the Treaty of Paris, in re-establishing order. Quarterly production quotas were set and a price stabilisation system introduced. Prices duly recovered in late 1981 and early 1982.

However, the higher prices seemed to undermine the pro-

duction restraint in some member countries in the second half of last year, as well as attracting more imports, at a time when actual demand was weakening.

As the market appeared to be collapsing again, steel ministers met at Elsinore, Denmark, in November and reaffirmed their commitment to further substantial capacity cuts, leading to a restoration of commercial viability by the end of 1985.

The market duly recovered again, and producers were able to push through significant price increases last spring. As late as June, the European Commission was forecasting a modest upturn in demand in the third quarter.

In fact, however, prices across a broad range of products began to fall in June, especially on the continent.

Producers say prices on the principal flat rolled products — heavy plate, hot rolled coil and cold reduced sheet — are off anywhere up to 20 per cent on the West German market since June, with plate being the worst affected.

In retrospect, a number of factors can be seen to have contributed to the current weakening of prices. It appears that the European Commission, and others, overestimated E.C. demand for steel this year, and so production quotas have not been restrictive enough.

A year ago, the International Iron and Steel Institute forecast E.C. consumption for 1983 at 98 million tonnes, up about 6 per cent. Now, it looks like ending down 3 per cent at 89 million tonnes.

E.C. producers have also had to

adjust to selling lower volumes to the U.S. as a result of a restraint agreement reached a year ago.

The volume of imports from countries outside the E.C. is supposed to be regulated by restraint agreements. But, as has happened before, a number of suppliers, notably Spain and South Africa, have tended to bunch their deliveries in the second half.

But most E.C. producers acknowledge that the key factor in the current price weakness has been the growing tension over West Germany's contribution to the community's restructuring programme.

Arguments over who should cut how much production and how much capacity are fairly regular events in the community. Normally, the European Commission assesses quarterly — after negotiations with the producers — how much steel each should make.

The main producers then get together in their organisation, Eurfer, to decide on sharing output of particular products.

Last June, the European Commission upset this process.

Following on the commitments received from ministers at Elsinore last November, it published its decision on how much further capacity needed to be cut — and where.

Generally speaking, the burden was to fall heaviest on German, Belgian and especially Italian producers while French and British producers, which had already made substantial cuts, got off lightly.

The leading Belgian producer, Cockerill-Sambre, has already announced it will comply with the commission's demands and Fin-

Arab Emirates three years ago. More recently, the company has signed a joint venture agreement to set up a similar plant in Jeddah.

Mr. Popoff, whose leading market in the Middle East is in pharmaceuticals, construction materials, agrochemicals and thermoplastics, said that he was particularly interested in looking at value added opportunities.

In this regard, he professed himself to be very impressed by Jordan's infrastructure especially that provided by the free zones and the industrial estate at Sahab

excessive optimism of growth rates in the 1970s. Petrochemicals are like candy, he said, "very sweet, but if you eat too much it'll make you sick."

He also said that, after the "rationnalisation" which began in 1980, Europe and the Middle East were beginning to establish a production equilibrium.

The Middle East, he said, was

especially suited to energy and raw

material intensive production

which favours such industries as plastics. By and large, he continued, petrochemicals in the area

were have got it right, and are keeping away from research and man-

power intensive production in

which they could not hope to

compete with the well-established European giants.

He concluded by saying that there was room for partnerships in the Middle East between local and transnational companies, "as long as there remains an economic rationnalisation." Arab chemical firms, for instance, he felt could add con-

siderable local value by formu-

lating or packaging a product

even though the base, active ingre-

dient may have been manufactured abroad.

Dow team explores potential in Jordan

By Philip Robins

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A top level team from Dow Chemicals Saturday held talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Mr. Walid Asfour during their two-day visit to Jordan.

Mr. Frank Popoff, president of the Dow Chemicals region which encompasses Europe, Africa and the Middle East, said in an interview with the Jordan Times that it had been a courtesy call aimed at updating his company on the attitudes and priorities of the Jordanian government.

Mr. Popoff said that the two main reasons for the visit, which will take the team to a number of Middle East capitals, were to "re-establish a commitment to us" at a time of economic difficulties, and to assess developments in the region which is "interesting and important to us."

In 1982, Dow Chemicals achieved sales of \$200 million in the Middle East, an annual growth rate of 15 per cent. Of this amount, \$40 million was achieved in the company's Eastern Mediterranean district which covers

Cyprus, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Iraq.

At present the district headquarters is situated in Athens which, while there is no immediate plan to shift the location, is not in Mr. Popoff's view ideal.

"We are a very decentralised company," he said, "and would like our headquarters to be located on the psch."

However, although he said that Jordan might be a candidate during any future move, he felt that the general political uncertainty in the Middle East and inter-Arab friction would probably mean that Athens will remain the district base.

Of the 30 Dow Chemical plants located in their region, two are situated in the Middle East. A wholly owned factory manufacturing insulation material was established in Sharjah in the United

Arab Emirates three years ago.

More recently, the company has

signed a joint venture agreement to set up a similar plant in Jeddah.

Mr. Popoff, whose leading market in the Middle East is in pharmaceuticals, construction materials, agrochemicals and thermoplastics, said that he was particularly interested in looking at value added opportunities.

In this regard, he professed himself to be very impressed by Jordan's infrastructure especially that provided by the free zones and the industrial estate at Sahab

last year, and Klockner is deeply troubled.

Also, other E.C. governments are likely to get increasingly impatient about the German's lack of progress in restructuring their steel industry.

Producers are fairly confident that some sort of agreement will be reached in the next few weeks on the immediate issue of quotas.

"We have to sort it out," Mr. Michel of Usinor says. "The alternative is chaos."

But the way to solving the overall problems of the German steel industry, and those of the European steel industries which it once led, is still far from clear. Experience in most other European countries does not provide encouragement to those who hope a government takeover will, by itself, solve much.

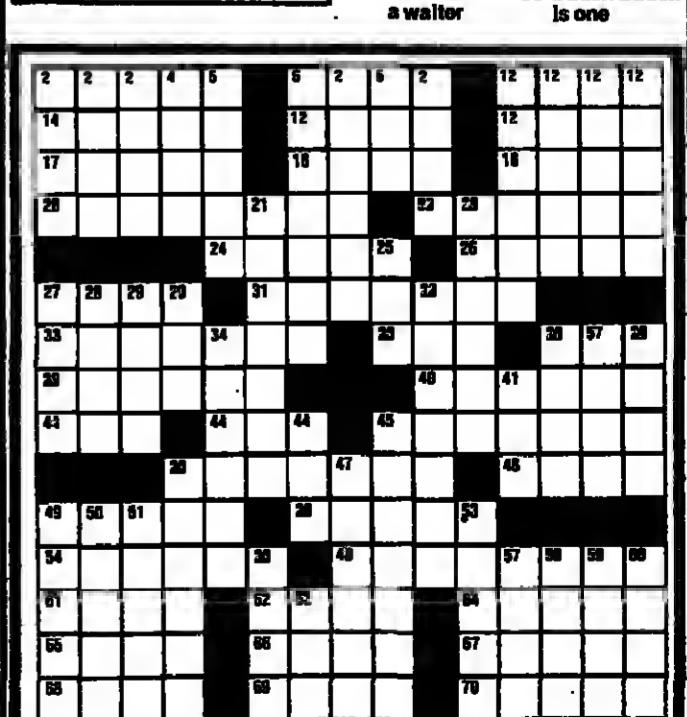
There has already been one recent bankruptcy in the German steel industry, that of Korf Stahl

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword

By Evelyn Benshoof

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WORLD

U.S. president may have known size of Cuban presence in Grenada before attack

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. intelligence sources dispute President Reagan's statement that the United States was surprised to discover Cuba's military buildup on Grenada after U.S.-led forces stormed onto the island this week.

Mr. Reagan said in a major policy speech on Thursday that the invasion was launched to protect 1,000 Americans and restore democracy on Grenada after a military coup last week, and that only after it began did Washington realize that the Caribbean island had become a major Cuban military outpost.

U.S. military planners "had little intelligence information about conditions on the island," Mr. Reagan said, echoing comments by other officials that American forces expected to find only about 500 Cuban construction workers but ran into stiff resistance from more than 1,000 armed Cubans.

But U.S. intelligence sources told Reuters Friday night that American intelligence agencies had kept abreast of a Cuban buildup on Grenada and there were no grounds for surprise.

"We knew they were there," one intelligence source said of the combat-trained Cubans.

The conflicting versions raise a major question: Did an intelligence failure cause U.S. invading forces to be caught off balance, or was a key goal of the operation all along to destroy a growing communist base on Grenada?

Several U.S. news organizations and members of Congress have said that there was a serious intelligence failure such as happened in 1979, when the overthrow of

the pro-Western Shah of Iran caught Washington by surprise.

But in the case of Grenada, unlike Iran, the chief evidence of a possible intelligence failure has come from statements volunteered by the president and other top officials.

"We had to assume that several hundred Cubans working on the airport could be military reserves (but) the number was much larger and they were a military force," Mr. Reagan said.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes, Gen. John Vessey, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, and other officials also said U.S. forces encountered many more Cubans and much stiffer resistance than they expected.

Mr. Reagan said the Americans found warehouses full of sophisticated, Soviet-supplied ammunition and weapons, "which makes it clear a Cuban occupation of the island was planned."

"Grenada... was a Soviet-Cuban colony being readied as a major military bastion to export terror and undermine democracy," he said, adding: "We got them just in time."

But informed sources said it would have been very surprising if U.S. intelligence agencies had not been gathering information on Grenada, particularly in light of Mr. Reagan's previous public statements of concern about the situation on the island, where Cuba



A soldier guards a group of Cubans taken prisoner during the fighting in Grenada (A.P. wirephoto)

was building a 3,000 metre runway.

One source told Reuters the administration was informed in report after report that the runway could be used by Soviet and Cuban military planes and that combat-trained Cubans were being sent to the island.

An article in the forthcoming issue of a specialist journal, Naval Institute Proceedings, says that there were well over 1,000 Cubans on Grenada, at least 300 of whom were full-time military personnel. An advance copy was provided to Reuters by the naval institute, a private group with close ties to the Pentagon.

The article said that major Soviet weapons shipped to the island's leftist government included three helicopters, armoured personnel carriers and artillery pieces.

"Much of this Soviet military equipment was displayed during a massive parade in St. George's (the Grenadian capital) on March 13, 1983," it said.

Prime Minister John Compton of St. Lucia said on Thursday that the Cuban military buildup on Grenada was the main reason his government and five other neighboring eastern Caribbean nations sought U.S. intervention and took part in the invasion.

"The United States came to our

aid because we thought the military buildup was threatening the whole southern Caribbean," Compton told reporters in Washington.

Some newspapers such as the Boston Globe and the New York Times have suggested that ensuring the safety of Americans on the island was largely a pretext for a U.S. move to wipe out a possible communist base.

Mr. Reagan and other administration officials have said repeatedly that a communist presence on Grenada threatened U.S. security, including sea lanes through which more than half of the country's oil supply passes.

U.S. ship reportedly sank near Vietnam

MOSCOW (R) — A U.S. oil drilling ship missing since Wednesday sank in the Gulf of Tonkin near the Vietnamese coast, British diplomatic sources in Hanoi said Saturday.

The sources, contacted by telephone from Moscow, said Vietnamese foreign ministry officials had told them U.S. and Chinese search vessels were in Vietnamese waters hunting for survivors from the 5,930-tonne Glomar Java Sea.

The sources in Hanoi said the Vietnamese navy and coastguard would have been stretched to help the U.S. and Chinese search teams because of typhoon damage in their own country.

A Selco spokesman said the search was made difficult by rain, wind and heavy seas.

The Glomar Java Sea, owned by Global Marine Deepwater Drilling of Galveston, Texas, was on lease to the U.S. oil company Atlantic Richfield.

scene was unable to find the boat or any survivors.

A capsized lifeboat believed to be from the Glomar Java Sea was found Friday, but no survivors or bodies were discovered.

Western oil industry sources in Peking said Friday the drilling ship had been found sunk south of China's Hainan Island and that all crew members were feared drowned.

The sources in Hanoi said the Vietnamese navy and coastguard would have been stretched to help the U.S. and Chinese search teams because of typhoon damage in their own country.

A Selco spokesman said the search was made difficult by rain, wind and heavy seas.

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Global Marine Deepwater Drilling of Galveston, Texas, was on lease to the U.S. oil company Atlantic Richfield.

COLLMAR

Burmese woman sentenced to death

RANGOON (R) — A Burmese woman has been sentenced to death after being convicted of causing the deaths of two women in an errant plot to kill her husband's mistress in a bomb explosion, a state-owned newspaper said. A court also sentenced to death two men who were the 36-year-old woman's accomplices in the conspiracy, the New Light of Burma daily said. Daw Ni, wife of an engineer in the government's irrigation department in Meiktila, 510 kilometres north of Rangoon, sent his mistress' bundle which contained a grenade hidden under a loaf of bread. A strange hissing sound and smoke came from the package as the mistress unwrapped it, and she hurled it away.

During pre-trial hearings, the wife, released on bail, tried to smuggle in a revolver hidden in a meal packet to one of her accomplices in prison, the paper said.

Lottery sale gets Irishman into jail

DUBLIN (R) — The sale of one of Ireland's finest stately homes by lottery may be off as the law cracks down on the practice. Raymond Coyle, who sold tickets for his 365-acre (147-hectare) estate at £300 (\$350) a time, was given a three-month jail sentence for violating the Gaming and Lotteries Act. He will appeal.

Pakistanis demand total ban on liquor

ISLAMABAD (R) — Muslim, Christian and Hindu members of Pakistan's civilian advisory council Saturday demanded a total ban on liquor sales in this already dry country, but were ruled out of order. The move to close the few loopholes left in Pakistan's Islamic prohibition laws came when a Muslim member demanded foreigners should no longer be allowed to buy drinks in their hotel rooms, the official APP news agency said. A Christian member said the Bible banned drinking and another minority representative, a Hindu, also supported the call for total prohibition. Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan told the speakers he admired their views but said the country's main Islamic court and council of Islamic ideology should look into the issue. The council chairman then ruled the speakers out of order.

Italian teenagers take to heroin

ROME (R) — A heroin market run by highly organised gangs is expanding at an alarming rate among Italian teenagers, according to an official report presented Saturday. The census bureau said it could not give an exact figure for heroin addicts. Some 90,000 have sought help from public or private bodies, but this is probably only a third of the total number, the bureau's report to the interior ministry said. Heroin addiction was no limited to specific social classes or specific types of family, it added.

Young passenger leaps to death

HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania (R) — A young man flying as a passenger on a commuter airliner forced open an emergency exit and jumped 1,200 metres to his death Friday, an airline spokesman said. The incident happened 10 minutes after Allegheny Airlines Flight 1231 left Harrisburg International Airport for Washington. The plane was not pressurised so there was no danger to passengers, the spokesman said.

S. African minister collapses at rally

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The strain of a gruelling referendum campaign showed on South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha Friday night when he collapsed while addressing a rally in the northern town of Pietersburg. Doctors said later the minister had suffered from sheer exhaustion and that no hospital treatment had been needed. Mr. Botha told his audience earlier that he had addressed 24 meetings in the last month.

Kaunda's victory certain

LUSAKA (R) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda Saturday headed for a substantial victory in his fifth presidential election, winning 94 percent of the votes cast in around one-seventh of the country's 125 constituencies.

Dr. Kaunda, 59, appeared to have won the backing of a solid majority of the electorate for continued occupation of the post he has held for the 19 years since Zambia gained independence

from Britain.

Results of the presidential and parliamentary voting, held simultaneously on Thursday, were due to be announced. Polling officials put the delay down to high turnout and transport problems.

The first 18 results announced showed that about 94 per cent of those who voted put their crosses against the eagle on the ballot paper, backing Dr. Kaunda — who is unopposed.

Doctor says U.K. killer 'motiveless and bizarre'

LONDON (R) — Mass killer Dennis Nilsen casually dumped a shopping bag full of human organs on a street corner while taking his dog for a walk, a jury was told.

They came from some of 15 young men he strangled then dissected over four years using butchery skills acquired as a former army cook, London's Old Bailey Court was told Friday.

Nilsen, 37, a civil servant who was once a trainee Loadon policeman, confessed to the killings and is charged with murder of six counts, the only six victims identified.

The doctor added: "It seems to me to be motiveless and bizarre."

The doctor added: "It seems to me to be popular language, of craziness."

Nilsen burned his first 12 victims on backyard bonfires but boiled the chopped-up remains of the last three, flushing some pieces down a lavatory and putting bones in a dustbin.

The jury has heard that several times he became worried about the smell given off by bodies he put under his floorboards and decided it was the "soft organs" that were the problem.

Dr. Galway, the second of

two psychiatrists called by the defense, testified that the shopping bag incident was indicative of Nilsen's mental abnormality.

"He placed human remains in a

carrier bag, took his dog for a walk and left the bag on a street corner where it was found by a passer-by and handed to the police," he said. "It seems to me to be motiveless and bizarre."

The doctor added: "It seems to me to be popular language, of craziness."

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cided it was the "soft organs" that

were the problem.

Dr. Galway said Nilsen strove

to retain his normality but broke

down under the weight of isolation

from family and friends and a fail-

ure in ordinary affectionate rel-

ationships.

Poland offers 11 jailed intellectuals to West

WARSAW (R) — Poland has offered freedom to 11 jailed dissidents, accused of plotting to over-

throw communist rule during the Solidarity crisis, if Western gov-

ernments will give them asylum.

A government spokesman said

Friday that seven top officials of

the Solidarity trade union and four

members of the former workers

self-defence committee (KOR)

could be released, but it is far from

certain the dissidents will accept

the offer.

The group — previously des-

cribed by the government as dan-

gerous extremists — include Jacek

Kuron, who was one of KOR's

founders, and Andrzej Gwiazda,

who was deputy leader of Sol-

idarity.

Diplomats said if the 11 agreed

to go abroad, they would save the

government the embarrassment of

a controversial trial which it would

prefer to avoid.

Political sources said an order

for the submarines could be part

of a larger Taiwanese order which

might include container ships and

agricultural barges and be worth

nearly \$500 million.

He warned the communists not

to reinforce a taboo which still ex-

isted in many sectors of French so-

ciety about their participation in

government.

Mr. Jospin's attack was coupled

with an offer of negotiations be-

tween the socialist and communist

leadership to thrash out current

political problems.

Both parties have lost electoral

support since the left came to

power, but the communist decline

in support has been steeper.

Political analysis believe the

Communist Party leadership is